

WI-94
Royal Oak Methodist Church
Royal Oak
Private

c. 1900-10

Royal Oak Methodist Church is a diminutive late nineteenth century frame structure that defines the intersection of Nanticoke and Royal Oak roads. Erected around the turn of the twentieth century, the gable-front frame church is trimmed with a modest degree of Victorian finish. The extended eaves have decorated rafter ends, and small brackets underpin the lower corners of the roof. The bargeboard has a delicate sawtooth decorative edge. Piercing the front wall is a single pointed arch door opening, and the sides of the church are marked by two pointed arch window openings.

Royal Oak Church is one of a handful of one-room religious buildings erected in western Wicomico County around the turn of the twentieth century.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Royal Oak Methodist Church

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-94

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):
Architecture
Religion
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Church

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-94

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Royal Oak Methodist Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 92030 Nanticoke Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Royal Oak ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1976 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Royal Oak Methodist Church stands on the northwest corner of the intersection of Nanticoke Road and Royal Oak Road with the modern address of 92030 Nanticoke Road, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story frame church faces southeast with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Built around 1900-10, the single-story frame church rests on a low concrete block foundation, and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the church is a metal mobile home.

The southeast (main) elevation is a gable front facade with a center double door entrance topped by a Gothic arched transom filled with opaque clear glass. The doors are replacements. A photograph taken by Orlando Wooten in 1977 indicates that a diamond shaped opening pierced the upper gable end, but it has since been covered with siding. The edge to the roof is finished with an extended eave, and a delicate saw-tooth bargeboard trims the eave. Fixed at the bottom corners of the roof are simple sawn brackets.

Each side elevation is two bays across and each bay is defined by a pointed arch window opening filled with opaque glass. The eaves of the roof are extended with decorated rafter ends exposed. Rising through the east side of the roof is a single flue brick chimney, which has been capped immediately above the roofline.

The rear wall is partially defined by a shorter single story, gable-roofed apse, which is obscured by later shed roofed additions to each side and the metal mobile home directly behind the church.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Royal Oak Methodist Church is a diminutive late nineteenth century frame structure that defines the intersection of Nanticoke and Royal Oak roads. Erected around the turn of the twentieth century, the gable-front frame church is trimmed with a modest degree of Victorian finish. The extended eaves have decorated rafter ends, and small brackets underpin the lower corners of the roof. The bargeboard has a delicate sawtooth decorative edge. Piercing the front wall is a single pointed arch door opening, and the sides of the church are marked by two pointed arch window openings.

Royal Oak Church is one of a handful of one-room religious buildings erected in western Wicomico County around the turn of the twentieth century.

The building deserves listing in Category B, since it is a structure that should be preserved due to its architectural and/or historical merit.

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PS-2746



WI-94
Royal Oak Methodist Church
Royal Oak, Wicomico County, MD
Wetipquin, Maryland Quadrangle
1983



VI-94

ROYAL OAK METHODIST CHURCH

ROYAL OAK, WICOMICO CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

6/96, PAUL TONART, PHOTOGRAPHER
NETH. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST